(b) if so, the details of grants/financial assistance received from the World Bank; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to complete the Green Belt Programmes, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The Government has not received any grant from International Agencies like the World Bank exclusively for development of Green belt and plantation of trees along the National Highways and Expressways.

However, in the World Bank loan assistance provided for 'Third National Highway Project (Loan No. 4559-IN)', under National Highways Development Project (NHDP), the component of plantation has been included. A sum of US 2.5 million (Rs. 11.35 crore) has been provided for plantation under the above mentioned World Bank Loan.

(c) The amount of Rs.11.35 crore provided in the Third National Highway Project loan has been released to the State Forest Departments.

A tree plantation strategy for NHDP has been formulated by the National Highways Authority of India, which contains the guidelines and specifications for undertaking plantation on the roadside margins and medians. Forest Department of the State Governments are the main agencies for avenue plantation while median plantations are undertaken by the contractors. About 1,000 km. of avenue plantations have been done so far on the NHDP.

Help to accident victims by hospitals

1818. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NHAI has responded to offers from hospitals and medical establishments to render help and attend to accident victims;

(b) the details of any such positive response from the NHAI in the last year;

(c) whether it is a fact that the NHAI is reluctant in such matters;

(d) to what extent is there a need for a more active role by the NHAI; and

(e) the details of the steps proposed to energies the NHAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by NHAI for medical help to accident victims with following hospitals/medical organizations:

(i) Dr. M.N. Tandon Charitable Trust, Jaipur for helping accident victims on NH-8 (Gurgaon-Amer Section)

(ii) M/s Life Line Foundation for accident victims on NH-8 (Ahmedabad-Surat Section)

(c) No. Sir.

(d) and (e) Ambulances are provided as a part of Operation and Maintenance activity in completed stretches of National Highways to provide relief to accident victims. The victims are transferred to nearest hospital after providing first aid. A list of hospitals which can provide trauma care is maintained for this purpose by the Authority and given to the drivers of the ambulances.

Private Sector participation in Port Sector

1819. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private sector participation in the port sector has yielded good results in economic development of the country;

(b) the areas of private participation which have yielded good income to the Government; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to encourage investment in the port sector?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Private sector participation in the major ports has taken place mainly in development and/or management and operation of multipurpose